

Balkan crisis
Increasing gravity of the situation
Continued fighting
Turks attacked by Albanians

Salonika, Saturday.

On the evening of Sunday, the 2-nd inst., the whole Bulgarian population of Western Macedonia suddenly rose in open revolt. The signal for revolt was given by setting fire to the ricks of hay and straw. Then the Bulgarian villagers took to the mountains en masse, accompanied in many cases by their wives and children. Telegraphic communication between Monastir and Okrida, Perlepe, and Salonika was cut. The Monastir Railway was also attacked. At Ekshisu the points were damaged by dynamite; near the same place a bridge was blown up, and extensive damage was also done to the line in the neighbourhood of Banitza.

The most daring exploit of the insurgents took place at Krushevo, to the north-west of Monastir, where they murdered the local authorities, and blew up the barracks, killing over fifty soldiers. There was severe fighting at Smilevo and Ekshisu. The insurgents murdered the guard of the Koritza post, near Resna, capturing a large sum of money.

On the arrival of reinforcements from Kossovo and Albania, the authorities felt strong enough to take the offensive. Four Turkish battalions, with artillery, attacked and routed a band of 1700 near Sorovitch. But for the moment practically the whole of Western Macedonia seems to be in the hands of the insurgents, the Turkish troops being masters of little more than the ground they stand on. The outbreak of the rebellion in Monastir, at a point remote from the Bulgarian frontier, was intended to show that the revolutionary movement is a spontaneous one, having its roots in the soil of Macedonia, instead of being, as the Turks have always maintained, an artificial movement initiated and kept going by bands entering Macedonia from Bulgaria. The outbreak in Western Macedonia is also intended to draw troops away

CONSTANTINOPLE, Aug. 11.*

Reports of yesterday's date from Hussein Hilmi Pasha, communicated to the Russian and Austrian Embassies, state that the insurrectionary movement is increasing daily. The young men of all the Bulgarian villages are fleeing to the mountains to join the bands. A large number of Bulgarian peasants wish to remain quiet, but they have been compelled by threats to help the committees. According to Hussein Pasha, the movement is also spreading in the vilayet of Salonika, where the committees are resolved to pursue the same methods as in Monastir—namely, massacre, incendiarism, and pillage.

Three hundred insurgents have gathered on the heights between Gievgyeli and Yenije. According to official information the Bulgarians lost 150 killed in the battle of Sorovitch. Twenty-six Mussulman peasants have been massacred in the village of Zivernini, near Prilip, by insurgents.

Telegrams from Monastir, dated yesterday and the day before, and received this morning, summarize the situation in the vilayet as follows:—

Krushevo is still in the occupation of the insurgents. Four thousand troops with artillery surround the town and are preparing to attack and retake the position. In the district of Dibra fighting with the rebels is in progress, and it appears that Albanians are attacking Bulgarian villages. In the district of Koritza the insurgents continue their work of devastation, and have captured important food supplies belonging to the State. In the districts of Kastoria and Florina severe fighting is reported between insurgents and troops. The former have captured Government mails which were on the way to Kastoria. Military precautions have been taken at Uskub, where dynamite outrages are feared.